UNITED
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General Assembly

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GENERAL

A/RES/54/8
18 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 32

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.13 and Add.1)*]

54/8. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/3 of 22 October 1997 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,[1]

Bearing in mind the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,[2] in which the parties agree to strengthen and expand their cooperation in matters that are of common concern in the field of their respective competence pursuant to their constitutional instruments,

Considering that the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean has intensified its ties of cooperation with the Latin American Economic System,

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[1] A/53/420.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1651, No. 1061.

Bearing in mind that the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American Economic System has carried out programmes with the support of the United Nations Development Programme in areas that are considered of priority for the economic and social development of the region,

Considering that the Latin American Economic System is developing joint activities with the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Intellectual Property Organization,

Welcoming the continued monitoring of changes in the treatment of topics relating to the United Nations system, in close contact with the delegations of the Member States participating in such deliberations,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Urges* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to continue deepening its coordination and mutual support activities with the Latin American Economic System;

3. *Urges* the United Nations Development Programme, within its new overall framework and high-priority development objectives in support of sustainable human development, to renew its financial and technical cooperation with the programmes that the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American Economic System is carrying out in areas of mutual interest and concern, aimed at complementing the technical assistance activities conducted by the Latin American Economic System;

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to continue and intensify their support for, and cooperation in the activities of, the Latin American Economic System;

5. *Requests* both the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Permanent Secretary of the Latin American Economic System to assess, at the appropriate time, the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

38th plenary meeting
25 October 1999

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Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/9
18 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 26

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.14 and Add.1)*]

54/9. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,[1]

Recalling article III of the Charter of the League of Arab States, which confers upon the Council of the League the task of deciding upon the means by which the League is to cooperate with the international bodies to be created in the future in order to guarantee security and peace and regulate economic and social relations,

Noting the desire of both organizations to consolidate, develop and enhance further the ties existing between them in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural, technical and administrative fields,

[1] A/54/180.

Taking into account the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[2] in particular section VII, concerning cooperation with regional arrangements and organizations, and the "Supplement to An Agenda for Peace",[3]

Convinced of the need for more efficient and coordinated utilization of available economic and financial resources to promote common objectives of the two organizations,

Acknowledging the need for closer cooperation between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in realizing the goals and objectives of the two organizations,

Welcoming the third meeting on cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, held on 28 and 29 July 1998, and the follow-up meeting held on 10 and 11 December 1998,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Commends* the continued efforts of the League of Arab States to promote multilateral cooperation among Arab States, and requests the United Nations system to continue to lend its support;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the follow-up action taken by him to implement the proposals adopted at the meetings between the representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, including the latest general meeting, held in Vienna in 1999;

4. *Requests* the Secretariat of the United Nations and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States, within their respective fields of competence, to intensify further their cooperation with a view to the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the strengthening of international peace and security, economic and social development, disarmament, decolonization, self-determination and the eradication of all forms of racism and racial discrimination;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in order to enhance their capacity to serve the mutual interests and objectives of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and administrative fields;

6. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system:

(*a*) To continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and among themselves, as well as with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in the follow-up of multilateral proposals aimed

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[2] A/47/277–S/24111; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1992*, document S/24111.

[3] A/50/60–S/1995/1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1995*, document S/1995/1.

at strengthening and expanding cooperation in all fields between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

(*b*) To maintain and increase contacts and improve the mechanism of consultation with the counterpart programmes, organizations and agencies concerned regarding projects and programmes, in order to facilitate their implementation;

(*c*) To associate whenever possible with organizations and institutions of the League of Arab States in the execution and implementation of development projects in the Arab region;

(*d*) To inform the Secretary-General, not later than 14 July 2000, of the progress of their cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in particular the follow-up action taken on the multilateral and bilateral proposals adopted at the previous meetings between the two organizations;

7. *Also calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to intensify cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in the priority sectors of energy, rural development, desertification and green belts, training and vocational training, technology, environment and information and documentation;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, to encourage periodic consultation between representatives of the Secretariat of the United Nations and of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States to review and strengthen coordination mechanisms with a view to accelerating implementation of, and follow-up action on, multilateral projects, proposals and recommendations adopted at the meetings between the two organizations;

9. *Recommends* that the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system should utilize, insofar as possible, Arab institutions and technical expertise in projects undertaken in the Arab region;

10. *Reaffirms* that, in order to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States should take place once every two years, and inter-agency sectoral meetings should also be organized once every two years on areas of priority and wide importance in the development of the Arab States, on the basis of agreement between the counterpart programmes of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of holding the next general meeting on cooperation between the representatives of the secretariats of organizations of the United Nations system and of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations during 2001;

12. *Recommends* that a sectoral meeting entitled "Youth and Employment" should be held between the United Nations and the League of Arab States and their specialized organizations at the headquarters of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in Beirut from 22 to 26 May 2000;

/...

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States".

39th plenary meeting
26 October 1999

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GENERAL

A/RES/54/10
18 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 171

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.15 and Add.1)*]

54/10. Observer status for the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the purposes of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, as enunciated in its constitutive declaration, are consistent with those of the United Nations,

Considering that, accordingly, it is mutually advantageous to provide for cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries,

Taking note of the desire of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries for the establishment of that cooperation,

1. *Decides* to invite the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

39th plenary meeting
26 October 1999

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GENERAL

A/RES/54/11
18 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 99 (*h*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.18 and Add.1)]

54/11. Thirtieth anniversary of the operations of the United Nations Population Fund

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2211 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, in response to which a trust fund, subsequently named the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, was established in 1967 by the Secretary-General,

Noting that the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, renamed in 1987 as the United Nations Population Fund, began operations in 1969,

Recalling its resolutions 3019 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, 31/170 of 21 December 1976 and 34/104 of 14 December 1979, in which it, *inter alia*, recognized the leading role and effectiveness of the Fund in the United Nations system in the population field and affirmed the Fund as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly,

Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolutions 1763 (LIV) of 18 May 1973 and 1986/7 of 21 May 1986 stating the aims and purposes of the Fund,

1. *Congratulates* the United Nations Population Fund on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of its operations;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the positive contributions the Fund and its dedicated staff have made during its thirty years in promoting better understanding and awareness of population and development issues, in improving the quality of human life and in extending systematic and sustained assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, at their request, in undertaking appropriate national programmes to address their population and development needs.

40th plenary meeting
27 October 1999

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Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/12
18 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 27

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.9 and Add.1)]

54/12. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/13 of 28 October 1998, in which it looked forward to continued close cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[1] that describes the recent enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union in pursuance of the 1996 cooperation Agreement[2] concluded between the two organizations,

Taking note with appreciation of the resolutions adopted and activities carried out by the Inter-Parliamentary Union during the past year in support of United Nations actions in the fields of peace and security, economic and social development, international law and human rights, democracy, good governance and gender issues,

1. *Welcomes* the support provided to the United Nations by national parliaments through their world organization, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and expresses the wish that the cooperation between the two organizations will be further strengthened and enhanced in the third millennium.

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[1] A/54/379.

[2] A/51/402, annex.

2. *Also welcomes* the information contained in the report of the Secretary-General[1] regarding preparations made with his support by the Inter-Parliamentary Union to hold a conference of presiding officers of national parliaments in conjunction with the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, designated the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations, in the General Assembly hall from 30 August to 1 September 2000;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine the possibilities of inviting the Inter-Parliamentary Union to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session (Millennium Assembly) on the outcome of the conference of presiding officers of national parliaments, and to report thereon before the end of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the various aspects of cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union".

41st plenary meeting
27 October 1999

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GENERAL

A/RES/54/13
19 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 117 (*a*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/506)*]

54/13. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/222 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 E of 17 June 1997 and 52/212 B of 31 March 1998,

Having considered the report of the Board of Auditors on United Nations peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998,[1] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[2] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations for that period,[3]

1. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report,[1] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Decides* to consider the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on contingent-owned equipment and the recommendation contained in paragraph 70 of its report under sub-item (*a*), entitled "Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations" of agenda item 151, entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations".

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29 October 1999

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/53/5), vol. II, chap. II.
[2] A/53/940.
[3] A/53/932.

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GENERAL

A/RES/54/14
22 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 118

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/511)]

54/14. Procurement reform

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/214 B and 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 52/212 B of 31 March 1998, 52/252 of 8 September 1998 and 53/204 and 53/208 B of 18 December 1998,

Reaffirming its resolutions 49/216 C of 23 December 1994, 51/231 of 13 June 1997 and 52/226 A of 31 March 1998,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on procurement reform[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recognizing that the procurement procedures should be more transparent, effective and efficient and should fully reflect the international character of the United Nations,

Noting the initial efforts to increase procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and stressing the need for further improvement in this respect,

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[1] A/C.5/52/46 and A/53/271 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[2] A/53/692.

I

GENERAL COMMENT

1. *Recognizes* the recent improvements made by the Secretary-General in procurement reform;

2. *Notes with concern* that some of the provisions of its resolution 52/226 A have not been fully and adequately implemented, and requests the Secretary-General to complete the implementation of all outstanding provisions;

3. *Stresses* the need for the procurement system to be transparent, open, impartial and cost-effective, based on competitive bidding and fully reflecting the international character of the United Nations;

II

PROCUREMENT MANUAL

4. *Welcomes* the publication of the Procurement Manual, and requests the Secretary-General to update it, as appropriate, taking into account the recommendations of the Board of Auditors in paragraphs 99 to 104 of its report[3] and including a step-by-step discussion of procedures required for field personnel to perform their duties;

III

GENERAL PROCUREMENT PROCESS

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that the bids received through electronic means are not compromised and to report on this in his next report on procurement reform;

6. *Endorses* the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions regarding the need to take steps to ensure that specifications are not deliberately tailored to predetermine the choice of supplier and that the principle of separation of responsibilities of the requisitioning and approving officers is maintained;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure wider participation of suppliers from all Member States, taking into account the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to improve further the competitive bidding process in order to ensure that vendors are granted reasonable time for the submission of bids;

9. *Welcomes* the increased use by the Secretary-General of modern electronic means of communication to disseminate information regarding requests for proposals, invitations to bid and requests

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[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/53/5), vol. I.

for expression of interest, and requests him to continue to utilize traditional means of communication for such information upon request;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider ways to increase the transparency of procurement decisions, including the possibility of reviving the practice of the reading of prices and other decisive elements at public bid openings for requests for proposals, and to report thereon in his next report on procurement reform;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to enhance and expedite the procurement process and to improve communication with suppliers;

IV

UNITED NATIONS ROSTER AND COMMON SUPPLIER DATABASE

12. *Notes* the efforts of the United Nations system to establish a common supplier database whereby participating organizations will be able to share information on suppliers, including evaluations of performance;

13. *Regrets* that the supplier roster is still not representative of the membership of the United Nations, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to intensify further and to focus his efforts to broaden the geographical base of the roster;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to improve further the registration process for the supplier roster;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to send invitations to tender, to the fullest extent possible, all vendors registered under specific categories and services on the supplier roster;

16. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to explore the possibility of using the harmonized system of classification of goods for United Nations procurement and to report thereon in his next report on procurement reform;

V

PROCUREMENT PLANNING

17. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to improve annual procurement planning for all offices and departments and to make such plans publicly available, including to all permanent missions to the United Nations;

VI

EXIGENCY

18. *Notes with concern* the observations of the Advisory Committee[4] that the definition of exigency as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General[5] appears too broad to be of any real value in exercising the required control over the use of the exigency provision, and urges the Secretary-General to submit a sharper and clearer definition of exigency needs to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee, at its fifty-fourth session;

VII

INCREASING PROCUREMENT FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

19. *Notes with appreciation* the acknowledgement by the Secretary-General of the need to increase procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition and the steps taken in this regard, and requests him to enhance those efforts;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit in his next report on procurement reform detailed information on the awarding of contracts for procurement, at Headquarters and in the field, to developing countries, in particular least developed and African countries and countries with economies in transition;

21. *Regrets* the initial delay in implementing the provisions of paragraph 13 of its resolution 52/226 A, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to take all possible measures to increase procurement from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including the following:

(*a*) All invitations to tender should be posted on the Procurement Division website as soon as they are prepared;

(*b*) All invitations to tender should be sent to all permanent missions to the United Nations, as well as to all United Nations information centres and other United Nations offices away from Headquarters for wider dissemination among Member States;

(*c*) Procurement Division officials may undertake visits to developing countries and countries with economies in transition with a view to identifying potential vendors from those countries;

22. *Notes with concern* the observations of the Advisory Committee in paragraph 9 of its report[2] that, out of the eleven countries visited by the procurement officials pursuant to paragraph 13 (*c*) of its resolution 52/226 A, only four were from the developing world and none were countries with economies in transition;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make all possible efforts to facilitate the identification of vendors in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including through the expeditious dissemination of information relating to procurement to those countries and the organization of

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[4] A/53/692, para. 10.

[5] A/C.5/52/46, para. 5.

seminars at the country and regional levels between the business community and United Nations offices in those countries;

24. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to direct field offices to encourage interested local vendors to apply for registration on the Procurement Division vendor roster with a view to broadening its geographical base;

25. *Encourages* the use of procurement within the region for the requirements of missions, taking into account efficiency and cost-effectiveness;

VIII

QUESTION OF PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT

26. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to examine ways to increase opportunities for developing countries in the awarding of procurement contracts, in particular for least developed countries, African countries and countries with economies in transition, taking into account the experience of preferential treatment in this regard in the funds and programmes of United Nations organizations and other intergovernmental institutions, and to report thereon to the General Assembly in his next report on procurement reform;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore ways to increase the procurement of goods and services from developing countries, in particular from least developed and African countries, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

28. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on due attention paid to offers for procurement submitted by vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, without prejudice to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and taking into account the provisions of the present resolution;

IX

REGULATIONS AND RULES

29. *Reiterates the request* contained in paragraph 4 of its resolution 52/226 A;

30. *Regrets* that the request contained in paragraph 28 of its resolution 52/226 A for the submission of proposals on possible amendments to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, in order to address issues of potential conflict of interest, has not been fulfilled, and requests the Secretary-General to submit the proposals as a matter of priority, but not later than the end of its fifty-fourth session;

31. *Looks forward* to the submission of the text of the additional rules requested in paragraph 10 of its resolution 52/252, as a matter of priority, but not later than the end of its fifty-fourth session;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make proposals for improving the system of payment to suppliers, including possible mechanisms similar to letters of credit;

X

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop a comprehensive system to measure the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the procurement function, by taking into account the best practices of other organizations of the United Nations system in his next report on procurement reform;

XI

REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF AUDITORS

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement fully the provisions of paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 52/212 B regarding the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

35. *Reiterates the request* contained in paragraph 6 of its resolution 53/204 addressed to the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations funds and programmes to ensure timely implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors as approved in that resolution;

XII

FORMAT FOR REPORTS

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop a standard format for future reports on procurement reform;

37. *Emphasizes* that the reports of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on procurement reform should be submitted in accordance with paragraphs 24 and 25 of its resolution 52/214 B and paragraphs 10 to 12 of its resolution 53/208 B;

XIII

METHOD OF DETERMINING THE BASIS OF STATISTICAL REPORTS

38. *Endorses* the observations of the Advisory Committee in paragraph 8 of its report,[2] and requests the Secretary-General to indicate on what basis the country of procurement is determined and how this methodology compares with recognized international practice.

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A/RES/54/15
19 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 119

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/508)]

54/15. Development Account

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997 and 52/220 and 52/221 A of 22 December 1997,

Reaffirming its resolutions 52/235 of 26 June 1998, 53/220 A of 7 April 1999 and 53/220 B of 8 June 1999,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Development Account[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Reaffirming its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986,

Reaffirming also the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,

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[1] A/53/945.

[2] A/53/7/Add.12. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 7*.

1. *Decides* to establish a special multi-year account for supplementary development activities based on the priority objectives of the programmes of the approved medium-term plan;

2. *Emphasizes* that the efficiency measures and the transfer of savings therefrom should not lead to a process of budgetary reduction and should not result in the involuntary separation of staff;

3. *Also emphasizes* that the efficiency measures and the redeployment of savings to the Development Account should not adversely affect the full implementation of all mandated programmes and activities;

4. *Decides* that savings to be achieved as a result of the efficiency measures can be identified in the context of budget performance reports and shall be transferred to the Development Account section with the prior approval of the General Assembly;

5. *Also decides* that the savings transferred to the Development Account section in accordance with paragraph 4 above shall form the maintenance base for that section in future proposed programme budgets;

6. *Reaffirms* that the Development Account should be operated strictly in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all budget proposals are fully commensurate with the related mandates in order to ensure their full and effective implementation;

8. *Decides* to keep the implementation of the Development Account under review, and requests the Secretary-General to submit reports in accordance with the relevant regulations and rules.

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A/RES/54/16
19 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Fifth Main Committee (A/54/507)]

54/16. Joint Inspection Unit

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the Joint Inspection Unit, hereafter referred to as the Unit, in particular resolution 50/233 of 7 June 1996,

Having considered the annual reports of the Unit for the periods 1 July 1995 to 30 June 1996[1] and 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997,[2] its programme of work for 1996-1997[3] and for 1997-1998,[4] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the note by the Unit regarding the cycle for its programme of work[5] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Unit,[6]

Reaffirming the statute of the Unit, the only independent system-wide inspection, evaluation and investigation body,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/51/34).

[2] Ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/52/34).

[3] See A/51/559 and Corr.1.

[4] See A/52/267.

[5] See A/53/180.

[6] A/52/206.

Stressing again that the impact of the Unit on the cost-effectiveness of activities within the United Nations system is a shared responsibility of the Member States, the Unit and the secretariats of the participating organizations,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the annual reports of the Unit for the periods from 1 July 1995 to 30 June 1996[1] and 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997,[2] of its programme of work for 1996-1997,[3] for 1997-1998,[4] and for 1999,[7] of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the note by the Unit regarding the cycle for its programme of work[5] and of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Unit;[6]

2. *Invites* the Unit, while preparing its annual programme of work, to give priority to the reports requested by the participating organizations;

3. *Recognizes* the improvements made in the functioning of the Unit, encourages the Unit to continue its efforts in this respect, and decides to revert to the issue of the functioning of the Unit at its fifty-sixth session;

4. *Endorses* the system of follow-up to the reports of the Unit, as contained in annex I to the annual report of the Unit for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997,[2] and, in this connection, invites the Unit:

(*a*) To send reminders/notices for the implementation of recommendations to the executive heads of the participating organizations;

(*b*) To include in its annual reports approved recommendations that have not been implemented;

5. *Requests* that the system be implemented expeditiously;

6. *Requests* the Unit to report on experience with the system, including action taken and comments made by participating organizations, to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

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[7] See A/53/841.

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GENERAL

A/RES/54/17
22 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 129

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/504)*]

54/17. Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/8 A of 31 October 1997, 52/8 C of 26 June 1998, 53/211 of 18 December 1998 and 53/228 of 8 June 1999,

Regretting the delay in the submission of the report of the Secretary-General requested in the aforementioned resolutions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[1] on the findings, observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audits of the procurement process in the United Nations Angola Verification Mission;[2]

2. *Notes with concern* that one of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services was based on incomplete information provided to the Office;

[1] A/53/1018.

[2] A/52/881, annex.

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to examine carefully the internal audit recommendations before taking remedial action;

4. *Expresses concern* over the lack of a consistent policy for the implementation of audit recommendations in respect of cases of fraud and financial abuse;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that audit recommendations in respect of cases of fraud and financial abuse are implemented in a consistent manner throughout the Secretariat;

6. *Calls* for further efforts to provide proper training and guidance to procurement officers in the field, especially in view of the expansion of United Nations peacekeeping activities;

7. *Looks forward* to the report of the Secretary-General on the procurement of goods for quartering areas of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to provide additional information on the measures being taken by the Secretariat further to improve procurement activities in the field and to enhance control and accountability, within the context of the report on management irregularities causing financial losses to the Organization, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/225 of 8 June 1999, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly, prior to the second part of its resumed fifty-fourth session, providing a concrete plan to correct procurement-related problems in peacekeeping operations, which should include the following:

(*a*) All remedial measures taken to address problems identified with regard to the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola and other peacekeeping operations;

(*b*) Standardization of the corrective measures that have already been taken for all existing and future peacekeeping operations;

(*c*) A description of how accountability was pursued in the cases of individuals who were found to have engaged in fraud, mismanagement or abuse, and how accountability measures will be applied in the future.

43rd plenary meeting
29 October 1999

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/18
22 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 130 (*a*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/510)*]

54/18. Financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/238 of 26 June 1998 and 53/229 of 8 June 1999,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Notes with deep concern* the mishandling of this matter by the Administration, as observed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 4 of its report;[2]

2. *Requests* the Board of Auditors to undertake a comprehensive audit of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission, in particular the question of the payment of mission subsistence allowance, as a matter of priority;

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[1] A/53/1023.

[2] A/54/418.

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on this question within a period not exceeding three months following the adoption of the present resolution, for consideration during the first part of its resumed fifty-fourth session;

4. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question during the first part of its resumed fifty-fourth session in the light of the reports of the Board of Auditors and the Secretary-General, and decides that, pending its decision, all actions on this question should remain in abeyance.

43rd plenary meeting
29 October 1999

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Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/19
22 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 151 (*a*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/509)*]

54/19. Reformed procedures for determining reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 45/248 B, section VI, of 21 December 1990 and rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly,

Recalling also its resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/222 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 E of 17 June 1997,

Having considered the report of the Phase IV Working Group on Reimbursement of Contingent-owned Equipment as transmitted by the Chairman of the Working Group to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee,[1] the report of the Secretary-General on the first full year of implementation of the reformed procedures for determining reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment[2] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

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[1] See A/C.5/52/39.

[2] A/53/465.

[3] A/53/944 and Corr.1.

1. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, while implementing the approved reformed procedures for determining reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment, to avoid any double payment;

3. *Approves* a general policy whereby the United Nations should only assume financial responsibilities in accordance with the decisions of the General Assembly;

4. *Emphasizes* that the intent of the new procedures on reimbursement of contingent-owned equipment is to ensure equitable reimbursement to the troop-contributing countries while ensuring the interests of Member States and the United Nations;

5. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Phase IV Working Group on Reimbursement of Contingent-owned Equipment,[1] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

6. *Also endorses* the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report,[3] with the exception of the following proposals, relating to:

(*a*) The levels of reimbursement for loss or damage to contingent-owned equipment in cases of hostile action or forced abandonment, as contained in paragraph 15;

(*b*) The review regarding United Nations responsibility for loss or damage during transportation, as contained in paragraph 16;

(*c*) Tentage and accommodation, as contained in paragraph 27;

(*d*) The use of independent outside expertise in the review and assessment of the generic fair market value of equipment, as contained in paragraph 31;

7. *Reaffirms* that, with regard to all new missions activated since 1 July 1996, only the reformed procedures for reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment are applicable;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure the full participation of delegations in the work of the Phase V Working Group;

9. *Emphasizes* that the revision of the contingent-owned equipment manual should be a continuous process, and requests the Secretary-General to revise the manual only after the completion of the work of the Phase V Working Group, in order to incorporate recommendations made by the Phase II, III, IV and V Working Groups, as approved by the General Assembly;

10. *Requests* the Board of Auditors to continue to audit the implementation of the reformed procedures for determining reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment and to report thereon in the context of its annual report to the General Assembly.

43rd plenary meeting
29 October 1999

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/20
22 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 169

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/505)]

54/20. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling its resolution 53/240 of 29 June 1999, wherein it appropriated an amount of 52,531,100 United States dollars gross for the Mission and decided that the amount to be assessed would be determined after the review of the report which the Secretary-General would submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, taking into account voluntary contributions received,

Commending all United Nations missions for their continuing efforts to implement effectively their mandated activities,

Reaffirming the international character of the United Nations,

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[1] A/54/380.

[2] A/54/406.

1. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

2. *Reiterates* that the expenses of the Organization shall be borne by Member States as apportioned by the General Assembly;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that staff in all United Nations missions continue to respect the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

4. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Mission in East Timor in full and on time;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

9. *Notes* that voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the Settlement of the Question of East Timor paid and pledged so far amount to 43,834,700 dollars and in-kind contributions are valued at 3,438,700 dollars;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to all those Member States that have made voluntary contributions to the Mission;

11. *Decides* to revise the level of appropriation to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in East Timor for the period 5 May 1999 to 30 September 1999 (phase I) to a total amount of 54,428,400 dollars gross (52,941,100 dollars net);

12. *Also decides* to apportion the amount of 7,155,000 dollars gross (5,667,700 dollars net) among Member States, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1999, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A of 22 December 1997;

13. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments up to 28,037,100 dollars gross (27,080,700 dollars net), in addition to the commitment authority up to 10 million dollars granted by the Advisory Committee on 9 September 1999, for the requirements of phase II of the Mission, pending the submission of a revised budget by the Secretary-General.

43rd plenary meeting
29 October 1999

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/21
18 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 33

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.11)]

54/21. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

The General Assembly,

Determined to encourage strict compliance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are also enshrined in many international legal instruments,

Recalling the statements of the heads of State or Government at the Ibero-American Summits concerning the need to eliminate the unilateral application of economic and trade measures by one State against another that affect the free flow of international trade,

Concerned about the continued promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulations, such as that promulgated on 12 March 1996 known as the "Helms-Burton Act", the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the freedom of trade and navigation,

Taking note of declarations and resolutions of different intergovernmental forums, bodies and Governments that express the rejection by the international community and public opinion of the promulgation and application of regulations of the kind referred to above,

Recalling its resolutions 47/19 of 24 November 1992, 48/16 of 3 November 1993, 49/9 of 26 October 1994, 50/10 of 2 November 1995, 51/17 of 12 November 1996, 52/10 of 5 November 1997 and 53/4 of 4 October 1998,

Concerned that, since the adoption of its resolutions 47/19, 48/16, 49/9, 50/10, 51/17, 52/10 and 53/4, further measures of that nature aimed at strengthening and extending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba continue to be promulgated and applied, and concerned also about the adverse effects of such measures on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living in other countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 53/4;[1]

2. *Reiterates its call* on all States to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and measures of the kind referred to in the preamble to the present resolution in conformity with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which, *inter alia*, reaffirm the freedom of trade and navigation;

3. *Once again urges* States that have and continue to apply such laws and measures to take the necessary steps to repeal or invalidate them as soon as possible in accordance with their legal regime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organs and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

50th plenary meeting
9 November 1999

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[1] A/54/259.

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/22
18 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 36

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.20 and Add.1)]

54/22. Bethlehem 2000

The General Assembly,

Recalling the fact that the Palestinian city of Bethlehem is the birthplace of Jesus Christ and one of the most historic and significant sites on earth,

Noting that the world will celebrate in Bethlehem, a city of peace, the onset of the new millennium in a global vision of hope for all peoples,

Stressing the monumental importance of the event for the Palestinian people, for the peoples of the region and for the international community as a whole, as it comprises significant religious, historical and cultural dimensions,

Aware of the Bethlehem 2000 project as a multifaceted undertaking for commemoration of the event, which will begin at Christmas, 1999, and conclude at Easter, 2001,

Aware also of the needed assistance with regard to the above-mentioned project, and expressing appreciation for the steps taken towards increasing the engagement and participation of the international community, including donor countries, and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, as well as the European Commission, religious institutions and others,

Welcoming the convening of the Bethlehem 2000 International Conference in Rome, on 18 and 19 February 1999, and the participation of many high-level individuals and institutions from governmental, religious, intergovernmental, academic, cultural, non-governmental and private sectors in that important Conference,

Expressing the need for immediate change in the situation on the ground in the vicinity of Bethlehem, especially with regard to ensuring freedom of movement,

Stressing the need for ensuring free and unhindered access to the holy places in Bethlehem to the faithful of all religions and the citizens of all nationalities,

Expressing the hope for rapid progress in the Middle East peace process and the achievement of the final settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides by September 2000, as agreed by the parties, so that the millennium may be celebrated most appropriately in an atmosphere of peace and reconciliation,

1. *Welcomes* the impending arrival of this global, historic celebration in Bethlehem of the birth of Jesus Christ and the onset of the third millennium as a symbol of the shared hope for peace among all peoples of the world;

2. *Expresses support* for the Bethlehem 2000 project and commends the efforts undertaken by the Palestinian Authority in this regard;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the assistance given by the international community in support of the Bethlehem 2000 project, and calls for the acceleration of assistance and engagement by the international community as a whole, including private sector participation, to ensure the success of the Bethlehem 2000 project and the fruition of this monumental commemoration;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize the pertinent organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to increase their efforts to ensure the success of the Bethlehem 2000 project;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Bethlehem 2000" so that the General Assembly may have a renewed opportunity to reaffirm its further support for the project until the commemoration comes to a close at Easter, 2001.

51st plenary meeting
10 November 1999

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/23
19 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 37

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.16 and Add.1)]

54/23. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/139 of 17 December 1991, 47/92 of 16 December 1992, 48/100 of 20 December 1993, 50/161 of 22 December 1995, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 51/202 of 17 December 1996, 52/25 of 26 November 1997 and 53/28 of 19 November 1998,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council decision 1991/230 of 30 May 1991, resolutions 1992/27 of 30 July 1992, 1995/60 of 28 July 1995, 1996/7 of 22 July 1996, 1996/36 of 26 July 1996, 1997/56 of 23 July 1997, 1998/44 and 1998/46 of 31 July 1998 and 1999/55 of 30 July 1999 and agreed conclusions 1995/1 of 28 July 1995, 1996/1 of 26 July 1996 and 1997/1 of 25 July 1997,

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments adopted by heads of State and Government at the World Summit for Social Development, contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[1] and the Programme of Action,[2] and their pledge to give the highest priority to national, regional and international policies and actions for the promotion of social progress, social justice, the betterment of the human condition and social integration, based on full participation by all;

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[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

2. *Emphasizes* the urgency of placing the goals of social development as contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action at the centre of economic policy-making, including policies influencing domestic and global market forces and the global economy;

3. *Also emphasizes* the need for revitalized economic and social development everywhere within a framework that places people at the centre of development and aims to meet human needs rapidly and more effectively by, *inter alia*, enhancing positive interaction between economic and social policies, and stresses the need for strong, sustained political will at the national, regional and international levels to invest in people and their well-being in order to achieve the objectives of social development;

Special session of the General Assembly and its preparatory process

4. *Recalls* its resolution 50/161, in which it decided to hold a special session in 2000 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit and to consider further actions and initiatives;

5. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to participate in the special session at the highest political level possible and in the meantime to continue to extend support to the preparatory process;

6. *Also reiterates its invitation* to the regional commissions, in accordance with their mandates and in cooperation with the regional intergovernmental organizations and banks, to continue to be involved in and to support the implementation of the objectives of the Summit, and welcomes in this context the holding of regional meetings for the preparation of the special session;

7. *Reiterates once again* that the objectives of the special session will be to reaffirm the Declaration and the Programme of Action agreed at the Summit and not to renegotiate them, to identify progress made and constraints therein, as well as lessons learned, in the implementation of the Declaration and the Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels and to recommend concrete actions and initiatives to further efforts towards full and effective implementation of the Declaration and the Programme of Action;

8. *Reaffirms* the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments, international organizations, the relevant actors of civil society, including the private sector, social partners and non-governmental organizations, in the implementation of and follow-up to the Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the preparatory process of the special session;

9. *Takes note* of the report on the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session,[3] established by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/25;

10. *Reiterates its invitation* to all relevant organs, funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, to continue to contribute to and be actively involved in the preparatory process and the special

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[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45* and corrigendum and addendum (A/54/45 and Corr.1 and Add.1).

session, and in this regard takes note in particular of the decision of the Preparatory Committee on the role of the United Nations system,[4] in which it invited all relevant organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other concerned organizations, within their mandates, to elaborate and submit review reports and proposals for further action and initiatives, and of its decision on further preparations for the special session;[5]

11. *Takes note* of the decision adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its resumed first session on accreditation and modalities for participation of non-governmental organizations at the special session,[6] and recalls General Assembly decision 54/407 of 8 October 1999 on arrangements regarding participation of non-governmental organizations in the special session;

12. *Recalls* the provisional agenda of the second session of the Preparatory Committee as adopted by the General Assembly in its decision 54/406 of 8 October 1999;

13. *Also recalls* the arrangements for the special session as recommended by the Preparatory Committee and adopted by the General Assembly in its decision 54/404 of 8 October 1999;

14. *Further recalls* General Assembly decision 54/405 of 8 October 1999, by which the special session will be entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world";

15. *Recalls* the recommendation by the Preparatory Committee at its organizational session that the Commission for Social Development be entrusted with the responsibility of acting as the forum for national reporting, benefiting from the sharing of experiences gained and thus identifying areas where further initiatives are needed for consideration by the Preparatory Committee;

16. *Takes note* of resolution 37/1 of the Commission for Social Development, entitled "Social services for all", and the agreed conclusions contained therein, and its resolution 37/3 entitled "Initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development";[7]

17. *Recalls* that in accordance with the Commission's multi-year programme of work, as approved by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1996/7, the priority theme for its thirty-eighth session in February 2000 will be "Contribution of the Commission to the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit", and in this connection also recalls the invitation by the Preparatory Committee at its first session to the Commission to undertake the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit, and to transmit the results of its deliberations to the Preparatory Committee at its second session;

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[4] Ibid., chap. VI, sect. B, para. 72, decision 1.

[5] Ibid., decision 2.

[6] Ibid., decision 3.

[7] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 6* (E/1999/26), chap. I, sect. D, para. 4.

18. *Takes note* of the ministerial communiqué adopted by the Economic and Social Council at the high-level segment of its substantive session of 1999, entitled "The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women";

19. *Reaffirms* in this context the decision of the Preparatory Committee at its organizational session that its substantive activities should take into account the results of other major United Nations conferences and contributions by other relevant organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system;

20. *Recalls* its decision in its resolution 53/28 to hold the special session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 26 to 30 June 2000;

21. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Switzerland for initiating and making arrangements for the special session;

22. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development;[8]

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the special session;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the special session of the General Assembly in this regard".

51st plenary meeting
10 November 1999

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[8] A/54/220.